

For Immediate Release

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## STATEMENT BY EQUATORIAL GUINEA REGARDING PROSECUTION OF ATTEMPTED COUP PERPETRATORS

**MALABO** (August 24, 2010) – *The Republic of Equatorial Guinea (Republica de Guinea Ecuatorial) released the following statement today in response to inaccurate information that has appeared in the international media regarding the judgment made against a group accused of involvement in the terrorist attack and attempted coup d'etat on February 17, 2009 by armed assault on the Presidential Palace in Malabo:*

"The aim of the rebels accused of involvement in the February 17, 2009 attack was not only the physical removal of the President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, but also to destabilize the legally established political regime in the country and its democratic institutions. This act resulted in the loss of lives of members of the Presidential Security, as well as injured other members of the Armed Forces.

"The trial of the coup perpetrators began on August 13, 2010, and has been broadcast by national media, has taken place with all the legal guarantees in an open and public forum in the Banapa Conference Center in Malabo. The trial was held under the chairmanship of Brigadier General Juvenal Mbomio Nsue, and acting as defense counsel, Colonels Alexander and Polycarp Mitogo Ondó Edu.

"The charges in this case include: the attempted assassination of the Head of State; Terrorism; and High Treason—based on the accused own statements, testimony and other evidence. Jose Abeso Nsue Nchama (former Capital Land Forces), Manuel Ndong Anseme (former Ensign), Jacinto Micha Obiang (former Comptroller of Customs and member of the Presidential Security) and Alipio Ndong Asumu, have been sentenced to capital punishment for these crimes.

"Legislation set out in the Constitution of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, specifically Article 13, Subsection A, Paragraph 2 of the Basic Law provides for the application of capital punishment for crimes such as those in this case. In consequence, the Court met for this cause, has acted on the absolute validity of the laws of Equatorial Guinea, with full legality and transparency, so that their decisions and actions comply with applicable legal provisions in the country.

"Moreover, the Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea deplores and regrets that those who now challenge the trial and outcome – while all the sovereign people of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and other peace-loving peoples who joined in solidarity with our country during the terrorist act on February 17 – remained silent and indifferent to the conspiracy plot that could have led the country to a total destabilization of its democratically constituted legal institutions."

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### ***About Equatorial Guinea***

The Republic of Equatorial Guinea (República de Guinea Ecuatorial) is the only Spanish-speaking country in Africa, and one of the smallest nations on the continent. In the late-1990s, American companies helped discover the country's oil and natural gas resources, which only within the last five years began contributing to the global energy supply.

Equatorial Guinea is now working to serve as a pillar of stability and security in its region of West Central Africa. The country will host the 2011 Summit of the African Union. For more information, visit <http://www.guineaequatorialpress.com>.

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**EQUATORIAL GUINEA MAKES FINALS AT 2010 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES**  
*Equatorial Guinea Defeats Iran in Soccer to Make Finals*

**MALABO** (August 23, 2010) – Equatorial Guinea's (Republica de Guinea Ecuatorial) Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and National President of the Youth Federation of the Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea (PDGE), Nguema Obiang Mangue, has been attending and supporting the women's soccer matches at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games in an effort to promote and support culture and sports in his country.

Equatorial Guinea's women's soccer team had its latest victory over Iran, carrying them to the finals. The team has been unstoppable and has managed to keep a perfect score. The Equatoguinean delegation will face Chile tomorrow for a chance to win the tournament. Judit Ndong, the captain of the team, said she felt a lot of responsibility as she is leading not only her country, but also her continent.

Minister Nguema Obiang Mangue is attending the soccer matches to support the hard work and outstanding performance of Equatorial Guinea's female soccer team at the Youth Olympic Games.

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